

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 132**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman CONNIE WAGNER

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman TIMOTHY J. EUSTACE

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

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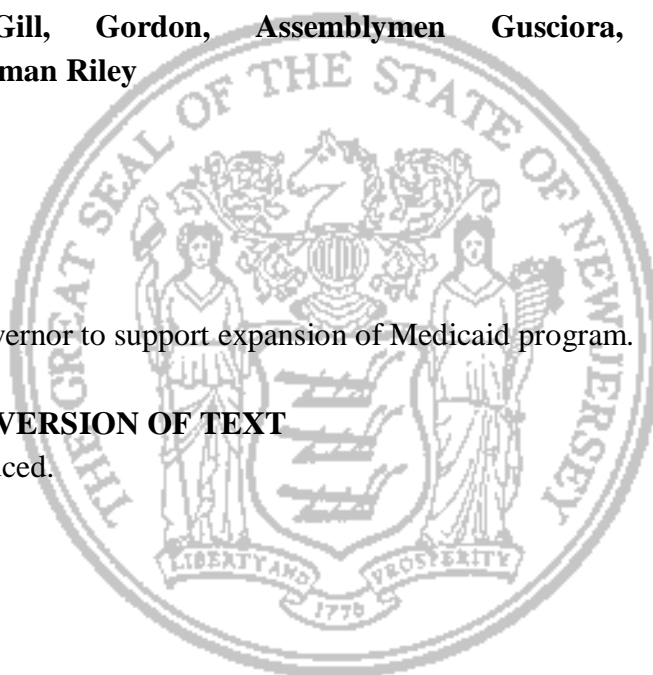
**Senators Gill, Gordon, Assemblymen Gusciora, Giblin and
Assemblywoman Riley**

SYNOPSIS

Urges Governor to support expansion of Medicaid program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/29/2013)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging the Governor to support the
2 expansion of the New Jersey Medicaid program as provided for
3 under the federal “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.”
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5 **WHEREAS**, The federal “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act”
6 (ACA), Pub.L.111-148, enacted into law on March 23, 2010, and
7 amended by the federal “Health Care and Education Affordability
8 Reconciliation Act of 2010,” Pub.L.111-152, enacted into law on
9 March 30, 2010, provides states with the opportunity, effective
10 January 1, 2014, to increase their Medicaid income eligibility limit
11 to 133 percent of the federal poverty level for all non-elderly adult
12 citizens and lawful residents, or 138 percent of the federal poverty
13 level when allowing for the five percent income disregard in
14 determining Medicaid eligibility for non-elderly persons established
15 by the ACA; and

16 **WHEREAS**, The ACA provides an enhanced federal match for those
17 states that participate in the Medicaid expansion, under which the
18 federal match for State funds expended on newly eligible persons
19 under the Medicaid expansion will be 100 percent from 2014
20 through 2016 and phase down to 95 percent in 2017, 94 percent in
21 2018, 93 percent in 2019, and 90 percent in 2020 and subsequent
22 years; and

23 **WHEREAS**, According to an August 2011 report by the Rutgers Center
24 for State Health Policy, if New Jersey were to increase its Medicaid
25 income eligibility limit to 133 percent of the federal poverty level,
26 Medicaid would expand from covering 13.6 percent to 16.7 percent
27 of the non-elderly population in the State, and this would increase
28 the Medicaid-eligible population in New Jersey by approximately
29 234,000 persons, of whom some 132,000 would be non-parent
30 adults and some 102,000 would be children under 19 years of age;
31 and

32 **WHEREAS**, A study published in The New England Journal of
33 Medicine in July, 2012 concluded that state Medicaid expansions to
34 cover low-income adults were significantly associated with reduced
35 mortality, improved coverage, access to care, and self-reported
36 health; and

37 **WHEREAS**, This study found a 6.1 percent reduction in mortality
38 among low-income adults between 20 and 64 years of age in three
39 states that substantially expanded adult Medicaid eligibility since
40 2000 (Maine, New York, and Arizona), compared with similar
41 adults in four neighboring states that did not do so (New
42 Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and New Mexico), with the
43 decline in mortality especially pronounced among older individuals,
44 minorities, and residents of the poorest counties; and

45 **WHEREAS**, An increase in the Medicaid income eligibility limit in
46 New Jersey to the maximum level permitted under the ACA would
47 enable this State to qualify for the enhanced federal match provided
48 for under the ACA Medicaid expansion; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey's participation in the ACA Medicaid
7 expansion would ensure that this State receives the federal
8 Medicaid funds to which it is entitled under the ACA, so that its
9 citizens, as federal income taxpayers, would not be simply paying
10 to meet the Medicaid expansion costs incurred by the federal
11 government in other states; and

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